CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for establishing a virtual university, comprising the steps of:

   connecting a virtual university server and one or more users;

   selecting a destination within the virtual university server to interact with the one or more users;

   coupling the one or more users through the virtual university server based on the selected destination; and

   establishing interaction parameters for the one or more users based on the selected destination.

2. A method for establishing a virtual university as recited in claim 1, wherein the destinations include a virtual student union where users can interact using a bulletin board or other collaborative functions.

3. A method for establishing a virtual university as recited in claim 1, wherein the destinations include a virtual library where a user can use resources, consult with a virtual librarian, search for resources and collaborate with one or more other users.

4. A method for establishing a virtual university as recited in claim 1, wherein the destinations include a virtual administration office where a user can register for courses, search a directory, utilize a class locator, consult with the administration help desk, add a course, drop a course and utilize a career center.

5. A method for establishing a virtual university as recited in claim 1, wherein the destinations include a virtual classroom where a user can learn, view a directory of other students in a class, view materials, grades, announcements, homework, review old tests, administer tests, ask questions of an instructor, enter a breakout room, review lectures,

5 view the class schedule and view research topics.

6. A method for establishing a virtual university as recited in claim 1, wherein the destinations include a university directory that provides information on persons and entities associated with the university.

7. A method for establishing a virtual university as recited in claim 1, wherein tests are

10 applied to the users.

8. A method for establishing a virtual university as recited in claim 1, wherein any two users can collaborate in the virtual university.

9. A method for establishing a virtual university as recited in claim 1, wherein grades are distributed electronically.

15 10. An apparatus for establishing a virtual classroom, comprising:

logic that connects a virtual university server and one or more users;

logic that selects a destination within the virtual university server to interact with the one or more users;

logic that couples the one or more users through the virtual university server based on the

20 selected destination; and

logic that establishes interaction parameters for the one or more users based on the selected destination.

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11. A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that establishes a virtual classroom, comprising:

a code segment that connects a virtual university server and one or more users;

a code segment that selects a destination within the virtual university server to interact with the one or more users;

a code segment that couples the one or more users through the virtual university server based on the selected destination; and

a code segment that establishes interaction parameters for the one or more users based on the selected destination.

12. A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that establishes a virtual classroom as recited in claim 11, wherein the destinations include a virtual student union where users can interact using a bulletin board or other collaborative functions.

13. A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that establishes a virtual classroom as recited in claim 11, wherein the destinations include a virtual library where a user can use resources, consult with a virtual librarian, search for resources and collaborate with one or more other users.

14. A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that establishes a virtual classroom as recited in claim 11, wherein the destinations include a virtual administration office where a user can register for courses, search a directory, utilize a class locator, consult with the administration help desk, add a course, drop a course and utilize a career center.

15.   A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that establishes a virtual classroom as recited in claim 11, wherein the destinations include a virtual classroom where a user can learn, view a directory of other students in a class, view materials, grades, announcements, homework, review old tests, administer tests, ask questions of an instructor, enter a breakout room, review lectures, view the class schedule and view research topics.

16.   A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that establishes a virtual classroom as recited in claim 11, wherein the destinations include a university directory that provides information on persons and entities associated with the university.

17.   A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that establishes a virtual classroom as recited in claim 11, wherein tests are applied to the users.

18.   A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that establishes a virtual classroom as recited in claim 11, wherein any two users can collaborate in the virtual university.

19.   A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium that establishes a virtual classroom as recited in claim 11, wherein grades are distributed electronically.